

## **Celebration of National Fish Farmers Day-2023 at ICAR-CIFE**

### **Kolkata Centre and Regional Research & Training Centre (RRTC), Motipur, Bihar**

National Fish Farmers Day-2023 was celebrated at ICAR-CIFE, Kolkata Centre and Regional Research & Training Centre (RRTC), Motipur, Bihar on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

#### **National Fish Farmers' Day-2023 at ICAR-CIFE, Kolkata Centre**

National Fish Farmers Day-2023 was celebrated at ICAR-CIFE, Kolkata Centre where fish farmers from different parts of West Bengal participated. In the inaugural session, Dr. G.H. Pailan, Officer-in-Charge, ICAR-CIFE, Kolkata Centre welcomed all dignitaries, farmers, and highlighted the significance of this particular day. Dr. Sujan Chakraborty, Former Member of the Lok Sabha was the Chief Guest. Prof. Tapan Kumar Mandal, Former Vice Chancellor, West Bengal University of Animal and Fishery Sciences, Kolkata and Dr. Pradip Dey, Director, ICAR-ATARI, Kolkata were the Guests of Honour. Dr. Sujan Chakraborty in his inaugural remarks emphasized on skill and knowledge-based farming to enhance the fish productivity by the small and marginal farmers. He also urged to adopt natural fish farming, so that the environment and biodiversity is restored and the indigenous fish species can be protected. He appreciated the contribution of the small farmers to the fish production of the country and suggested making use of our rich traditional knowledge along with modern technologies and their fusion for augmenting the productivity. Prof. Tapan Kumar Mandal highlighted the importance of environmental concerns like increasing water pollution, chemical usage etc. on fish production which can hamper the natural productivity of aquaculture system. Dr. Pradip Dey also highlighted the importance of the day, and pointed out the role of fish farmers to adopt sound and scientific fish culture practice. He also described the importance of integrated farming systems for livelihood improvement and rural development. Fish farmers actively participated in open-house discussion and flagged various issues related to fish and fisheries. About 30 farmers attended the programme and shared their success stories. Three progressive farmers were felicitated for their remarkable achievements and success in the field of aquaculture and fisheries. An exhibition along with plantation programme was organized. ICAR-CIFE, Kolkata Centre and two feed input companies (ABIS Feed and Rallis India Limited) participated in the exhibition and displayed their products related to fish farming. The programme ended with formal vote of thanks by Dr. P. Sardar, Principal Scientist.

#### **National Fish Farmers Day-2023 at ICAR-CIFE, Regional Research & Training Centre (RRTC), Motipur, Bihar**

ICAR-CIFE celebrated National Fish Farmers day on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at RRTC Motipur. Around 150 farmers across the state participated in the National Fish Farmers Day. Dr. Ravishankar C.N., Director and Vice Chancellor, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai; Dr. N.P. Sahu, Joint Director, ICAR-CIFE; Mumbai, Dr. Krishna Gopal Mandal, Director MGIFRI Piprakothi, Dr. Bikash Das, Director NRC Litchi, Er. Ashok Kumar, Ex-Director of Electricity Department, Bihar; Sri Vinod Kumar, Director of state Fisheries. Dr. Munil Shukham and Dr. Ashutosh D Deo from ICAR CIFE and Dr. Md Aklakur, OIC, RRTC, Motipur graced the occasion. Welcome address was given by Dr. Munil Shukham, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai. This was followed by briefing of the activities of the RRTC Motipur by Dr. Md Aklakur, OIC, RRTC, Motipur. During this event, six progressive fish farmers were given awards by Dr. Ravishankar C.N., Director and Vice Chancellor, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai. Dr. Krishna Gopal Mandal, briefed about importance of integrated farming to the farmers. Dr. Bikash Das explained about the importance of ICAR for the farmers' welfare. Shri. Vinod Kumar detailed about state government schemes to the farmers. An interactive experience sharing session was held with the fish farmers. Progressive fish farmers shared their experiences and self-motivation to start fish farming. They suggested that a hatchery can be established at the centre which would help the fish farmers in many ways. All fish farmers appreciated the work done by CIFE, especially the efforts of Dr. Md Aklakur, OIC, RRTC, Motipur. Dr. N.P. Sahu, Joint Director, ICAR-CIFE motivated the farmers and stressed that there was immense scope of fisheries in Bihar. He also addressed the usage of litchi seeds in fish feed and highlighted that this needs to be confirmed through research. Dr. Ravishankar C.N, Director and Vice Chancellor, ICAR-CIFE assured to the farmers that CIFE and its centres will always work for the upliftment of the fish farmers and fishers. Formal vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Ashutosh D Deo, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai.

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Welcome of Dr. Ravishankar C.N., Director and Vice Chancellor, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai



Awards to the progressive fish farmers

Progressive fish farmer's award



Director's recognition award for outstanding service to the institute



Address by Dr. Ravishankar C.N., Director and Vice Chancellor, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai



Distribution of certificates to the trainees



Fish farmers attending the function



Dr. N.P. Sahu, Joint Director, ICAR-CIFE interacting with the farmers



Farmer sharing his experience



Dr. Ashutosh D Deo, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai presenting Vote of thanks



Certificate of appreciation to fish farmer